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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/822,004	04/12/2004	Heung-sup Jeong	101-1028	1588
38209	7590	11/03/2005	EXAMINER	
STANZIONE & KIM, LLP 919 18TH STREET, N.W. SUITE 440 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			GRAINGER, QUANA MASHELL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2852	

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/822,004	JEONG ET AL.	
	Examiner Quana M. Grainger	Art Unit 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8-16-2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 19-21 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-5, 14-18, 22 and 24 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 6-13 and 23 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sawada et al. The electrophotographic printer by Sawada et al. comprises: a main frame; a photosensitive drum unit having a photosensitive drum 10 on which an electrostatic latent image is formed, and slidably mounted on or dismounted from the main frame in a first direction; a development unit 30 having a developing roller to supply toner to the photosensitive drum to develop the electrostatic latent to form a toner image, and slidably mounted on or dismounted from the main frame in a second direction different from the first direction; and an intermediate transfer unit 50 having a transfer medium to which the toner image is transferred from the photosensitive drum, and installed adjacent to the photosensitive drum unit on the main frame (figure 4; see also column 6, lines 22-48). The intermediate transfer unit 50 is slidably mounted on or dismounted from the main frame in the first direction (figure 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sameshima et al. (6,807,393).

Sameshima teaches an electrophotographic printer comprising a main frame; a photosensitive drum unit vertically detachably installed on the main frame, and having a photosensitive drum on which an electrostatic latent image is formed; and an intermediate transfer unit vertically detachably installed on the main frame, and having a transfer belt to which a toner image is transferred from the photosensitive drum, wherein the intermediate transfer unit is installed above the photosensitive drum unit (figure 1, 8). The photosensitive drum unit further comprises a first cleaning device 6 to remove toner remaining on a surface of the photosensitive drum 1 after the toner image is transferred to the transfer belt. The photosensitive drum unit further comprises a charger 2 to charge the photosensitive drum to a uniform potential.

The intermediate transfer unit further comprises a second cleaning device to remove toner remaining on the transfer belt 5 before the toner image is transferred to the sheet.

Sameshima does not teach an independently detachable or installable (separable) intermediate transfer unit. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the intermediate transfer unit separable from the photosensitive drum at the time of detaching/installing since it has been held to be within ordinary skill in the art to make an combined unit separable. *In re Dulberg*, 289 F.2d 522, 523, 129 USPQ 348, 349 (CCPA 1961).

6. Claim 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sameshima et al. and further in view of Hamano et al. Sameshima et al. teaches a duplex path and that the sheet transport is rotatably installed. Sameshima et al. does not teach a transfer device that moves in an out of contact with the drum.

Hamano et al. teaches a transfer device that moves in an out of contact with the drum (figure 5) and a waste toner storage container 232.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Hamano et al. with the image forming device of Sameshima et al. to reduce wear on the drum due to the transfer roller.

7. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sameshima et al. and further in view of Nonami. Sameshima et al. does not teach an eraser device.

Nonami teaches eraser device comprising a lamp and a light guide for use within an electrophotographic printer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Nonami with the image forming device of Sameshima et al. to erase an image and increase image quality.

Response to Arguments

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8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 6-13 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 19-21 are allowed.

Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quana M. Grainger whose telephone number is 571-272-2135. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on 571-272-2136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

QG



Quana M Grainger
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852